

10/585237

AP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 29 JUN 2006

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any paper referenced as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as Express Mail Label EV763465441US in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Rebecca A. Bellas

(Type or Print Name of Person Mailing Paper)

June 29, 2006
(Date)Rebecca A. Bellas
(Signature of Person Mailing Paper)Docket No. ARTHP120USIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of

Applicant: Kloss, et al.
Serial No.: ----
Filed: HERewith
For: INTERVERTEBRAL DISK IMPLANT
Art Unit: ----
Examiner: ----

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

1. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97 and 1.98, and in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.56, the Office's attention is directed to the patents, pending applications, publications and other information listed on the attached PTO-1449. A copy of each listed document is enclosed except for: (a) pending applications or (b) those previously cited or submitted to the Office in the following application(s) upon which this application relies for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120; or (c) U.S. Patent(s) and published application(s) since the subject application was filed after June 30, 2003.

Serial No.: _____
Filing Date: _____

Regarding any document, publication or other information for which a date is not given on the attached PTO-1449, Applicant(s) believe(s) the same may qualify as "prior" art to this application and should be treated accordingly, although Applicant(s) reserve(s) the right to contest the prior art status of any document, publication or information, should issue arise.

2. Regarding each listed document that is not in the English language, an English-language translation accompanies this Statement as indicated on the attached PTO-1449 or a concise explanation of the relevance of the document is set forth in the following document(s):

- (a) ____ Copy of each English language version of a search report indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office of each document being submitted from the search report.

- (b) ___ Attachment entitled "Concise Explanation of Relevance of Non-English Language Documents".

RECEIVED PTO 29 JUN 2006

3. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b) this Statement is being filed (one must be checked):

- (a) X Within 3 months of the filing date or date of entry into the National Stage.
- (b) ___ Before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. If this Statement is not filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, the required certification is given below or, in the absence thereof, the Office is authorized to charge the required fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 50-1063 for consideration of this Statement.
- (c) ___ Before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits after a first or second submission after final rejection under 37 C.F.R. 1.129(a).
- (d) ___ After the period set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b) but before the mailing date of either a final action or a notice of allowance.
- (1) ___ The required certification is given below, or
- (2) ___ Enclosed is a check covering the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) for consideration of this Statement, or
- (3) ___ Charge the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 50-1063
- (e) ___ After the mailing date of either a final action or a notice of allowance, but before payment of the issue fee. Petition hereby is made for consideration of this Statement and the required certification is indicated below.
- (1) ___ Enclosed is a check covering the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(i)(1), or
- (2) ___ Charge the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(i)(1) to Deposit Account No. 50-1063.

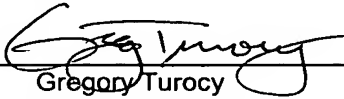
4. Certification (if applicable)

- (a) ___ The undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than 3 months prior to the filing of this Statement.
- (b) ___ The undersigned hereby certifies that no item of information contained in this Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the undersigned's knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(c) more than 3 months prior to the filing of this Statement.

5. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1063.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	90/585237
Filing Date	HEREWITH
First Named Inventor	Kloss, et al.
Art Unit	----
Examiner Name	----
Attorney Docket Number	ARTHP120US

Sheet	1	of	2
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U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.**

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Complete if Known	
		Application Number	10/585237
		Filing Date	Herewith
		First Named Inventor	Kloss, et al.
		Art Unit	----
Examiner Name	----		
Attorney Docket Number	ARTHP120US		
Sheet	2	of	2

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		International Search Report, PCT/DE/2004/002839, May 25, 2005	
		International Preliminary Examination Report, PCT/DE/2004/002839, February 22, 2006	
		Written Opinion, PCT/DE/2004/002839	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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